

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 073277
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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:RAMOSHER
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH PRIORITY

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////
LIMDIS - MUNICL FOR GILMORE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, CGEN, PFOR, BU (MAREVA, RUMYANKA AND YORDANKA)

SUBJECT: DIVIDED FAMILIES: MAREV CASE

1. DEPARTMENT HAS LEARNED FROM RFE WASHINGTON THAT BULGARIAN STATE GAZETTE, IN ITS "LATEST ISSUE", REPORTED THAT THE DISTRICT PROSECUTOR IN VARNA HAS BEGUN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TO TAKE AWAY THE MAREV'S RIGHTS FOR CUSTODY OVER THE GIRLS. MAREV AND HIS WIFE HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO APPEAR IN COURT ON MAY 20TH. IF THEY DO NOT SHOW UP, BULGARIAN COURT WILL APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO ACT ON THEIR BEHALF AND CONTINUE WITH THE PROCEEDINGS. RFE HAS ALREADY USED ITEM IN ITS OWN BROADCASTS TO BULGARIA, BUT HAS AGREED NOT TO PURSUE STORY FOR THE TIME BEING.

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2. EMBASSY WILL BE RECEIVING SHORTLY CABLE OUTLINING IN DETAIL DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSAL FOR NEXT STEPS IN FURTHER EFFORT TO RESOLVE MAREV CASE, AND ALSO CABLE GIVING OUR RESPONSE TO LEGAL POINT RAISED BY BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTION WITH NATURALIZATION TREATY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIPT OF ANY CONFIRMATION EMBASSY MAY HAVE ON INFO DESCRIBED IN PARA ONE ABOVE, AND, AS

PART OF EMBASSY'S COMMENTS ON OUR OVERALL PLAN, YOUR
THOUGHTS ON GOB MOTIVES FOR SCHEDULING HEARING AND HOW
WE MIGHT PROCEED.

3. FOR MUNICH, GILMORE: CASE CONCERNS LONG-UNRESOLVED
DIVIDED FAMILY WITH TWO YOUNG DAUGHTERS STILL IN BULGARIA
AND PARENTS IN THE U.S. SINCE LAST AUGUST, PARENTS HAVE
BEEN MAINTAINING VIGIL IN FRONT OF STATE DEPARTMENT
DIPLOMATIC ENTRANCE TO DRAMATIZE THEIR CAUSE. SINCE
MAREV'S PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION HAS INVOLVED PRESTIGE OF
GOB, WE BELIEVE FURTHER SPECIAL ATTENTION TO CASE BY
RFE AT THIS DELICATE STAGE COULD ONLY DAMAGE CHANCES FOR
REUNITING FAMILY. PLEASE BRIEF RFE/RL MANAGEMENT ON
CASE. WE HOPE THEY WOULD AGREE TO CHECK WITH US BEFORE
GIVING ANY FURTHER COVERAGE.

VANCE

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